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# STATISTICAL SUMMARY

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## Farmers May Change Their Minds

The Crop Reporting board released its Prospective Plantings Report for 1963 on March 20. The acreages actually planted in 1963 may turn out to be larger or smaller than indicated, by reason of weather conditions, price changes, labor supply, financial conditions, agricultural programs, and the effect of this report itself upon farmers' actions.

## Prospective Plantings for 1963

Corn plantings are expected to total about 70 million acres, up 6 percent from 1962 but 8 percent below the 1957-61 average.

Spring wheat plantings may total 11 million acres, 6 percent more than 1962 but 11 percent smaller than average.

Oats intended plantings, at 29 million acres, are the lowest of record, and 5 percent below 1962.

Barley may be planted on 14 million acres, 5 percent less than last year and 13 percent less than average.

Soybean prospective acreage, at 30 million acres, would be the highest of record, 4 percent more than last year and 22 percent above average.

## Rundown of Prospective Acreages with Percentage Change, This Year Compared with Last

| Crop                   | Planted<br>1962 | Indicated<br>1963 | Increase<br>or<br>Decrease |
|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
|                        | 1,000 acres     | 1,000 acres       | Percent                    |
| Corn, all.....         | 65,984          | 69,769            | +5.7                       |
| All spring wheat.....  | 10,490          | 11,102            | +5.8                       |
| Durum.....             | 22,478          | 2,182             | -11.9                      |
| Other Spring.....      | 8,012           | 8,920             | +11.3                      |
| Oats.....              | 30,202          | 28,746            | -4.8                       |
| Barley.....            | 14,701          | 14,032            | -4.6                       |
| Flaxseed.....          | 3,087           | 3,181             | +3.0                       |
| Cotton.....            | 16,296          | 14,818            | -9.1                       |
| Rice.....              | 1,785           | 1,785             | same                       |
| Sorghums.....          | 15,025          | 15,947            | +6.1                       |
| Potatoes, all.....     | 1,416           | 1,402             | -1.0                       |
| Sweetpotatoes.....     | 222             | 210               | -5.3                       |
| Tobacco.....           | 1,227           | 1,189             | -3.1                       |
| Beans, dry edible..... | 1,539           | 1,484             | -3.6                       |
| Peas, dry field.....   | 353             | 348               | -1.4                       |
| Soybeans.....          | 28,703          | 29,896            | +4.2                       |
| Peanuts.....           | 1,546           | 1,528             | -1.1                       |
| Hay.....               | 67,332          | 66,915            | -.6                        |
| Sugar Beets.....       | 1,185           | 1,272             | +7.4                       |

Sorghums for all purposes may total 16 million acres, 6 percent more than 1962 but about one-fifth below average.

Hay acreage to be cut, at 67 million acres, is slightly less than last year.

Tobacco prospective acreage, at 1.2 million acres, is about 3 percent less than last year's acreage but 5 percent more than average.

Potato total acreage at 1.4 million is about 1 percent below last year and down 2 percent from average. The prospective acreage for the late summer and fall crops combined, at 1,160 thousand acres, is down 1 percent from last year.

Rice acreage planted may total 1.8 million acres, about the same as last year but 17 percent more than average.

## Prices of Farm Products

| Commodity                          | Average prices<br>received by<br>farmers |              | Effective<br>parity<br>prices<br>based on<br>data for<br>Feb, 1963 |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------|--|
|                                    | Jan.<br>1963                             | Feb,<br>1963 |  |
| Basic commodities                  |  |              |  |
| Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.)...ct.   | 30.07                                    | 29.69        | 40.31  |
| Wheat (bu.).....dol.               | 201                                      | 2.04         | 2.49   |
| Rice (100 lb.).....dol.            | 5.27                                     | 5.18         | 6.44   |
| Corn (bu.).....dol.                | 1.03                                     | 1.06         | 1.59   |
| Peanuts (lb.).....ct.              | 11.2                                     | 11.2         | 14.0   |
| Designated nonbasic commodities:   |  |              |  |
| Milkfat in cream (lb.).....ct.     | 58.9                                     | 58.7         | 77.4   |
| Milk, wholesale (100 lb.)...dol.   | 4.24                                     | 4.15         | 5.35   |
| Wool (lb.).....ct.                 | \$ 45.4                                  | \$ 47.0      | 77.8   |
| Other nonbasic commodities:        |  |              |  |
| Barley (bu.).....dol.              | .896                                     | .910         | 1.25   |
| Cottonseed (ton).....dol.          | 48.20                                    | 48.50        | 62.50  |
| Flaxseed (bu.).....dol.            | 2.75                                     | 2.79         | 3.89   |
| Hay, baled (ton).....dol.          | 22.30                                    | 23.20        | 26.60  |
| Oats (bu.).....dol.                | .645                                     | .654         | .849   |
| Potatoes (cwt.).....dol.           | 1.54                                     | 1.61         | 2.29   |
| Rye (bu.).....dol.                 | .969                                     | .978         | 1.42   |
| Sorghum, grain (100 lb.)...dol.    | 1.68                                     | 1.70         | 2.49   |
| Soybeans (bu.).....dol.            | 2.41                                     | 2.50         | 3.01   |
| Sweetpotatoes (cwt.).....dol.      | 4.04                                     | 4.05         | 5.94   |
| Oranges, on tree (box).....dol.    | 1.72                                     | 2.21         | 2.86   |
| Apples, for fresh use (bu.)...dol. | 2.51                                     | 2.58         | 3.07   |
| Beef cattle (100 lb.).....dol.     | 21.60                                    | 20.40        | 24.00  |
| Calves (100 lb.).....dol.          | 25.60                                    | 25.20        | 27.00  |
| Hogs (100 lb.).....dol.            | 15.40                                    | 14.80        | 22.40  |
| Lambs (100 lb.).....dol.           | 18.20                                    | 17.60        | 24.50  |
| Chickens, all (lb.).....ct.        | 14.1                                     | 15.3         | 23.8   |
| Eggs (dozen).....ct.               | 36.5                                     | 37.3         | 48.2   |

<sup>1</sup>Preliminary

<sup>2</sup>Does not include incentive payment

## Intended Spring Plantings of Major Crops Up 2 Percent

Plans of the Nation's farmers, as of March 1, indicate a total of 263 million acres for the 17 crops covered by the March 1 planting intentions survey. This acreage is 2 percent more than last year and 1 percent more than 1961. The acreage of the crops surveyed in March usually accounts for about 85 percent of the all crops total. If farmers carry out their plans for the 17 crops, and allowance is made for other crops not surveyed this March, the 1963 total planted acreage of all crops would be the second smallest of record, 2 percent more than last year's record low.

## Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

| Item   | 1962 |      |      | 1963 |      |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|
|  | Feb. | Year | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. |
|  | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. | Mil. |
| Nonfarm employment, (civilian) <sup>1</sup> ..                     | 61.2 | 62.7 | 63.5 | 61.7 | 62.3 |
| Farm employment .....  | 5.1  | 6.7  | 5.0  | 4.6  | 5.0  |
| Family.....  | 4.1  | 4.9  | 4.0  | 3.8  | 4.0  |
| Hired .....  | 1.0  | 1.8  | .9   | .9   | 1.0  |
| Index numbers (1957-59) = 100                                      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Industrial production <sup>2</sup> .....                           | 116  | 118  | 119  | 119  | 119  |
| Total personal income payments <sup>3</sup> ..                     | 118  | 121  | 123  | 124  | 124  |
| Weekly factory earnings <sup>4</sup> .....                         | 110  | 113  | 115  | 112  | 112  |
| Average earnings of factory workers, per worker <sup>4</sup> ..... | 113  | 115  | 117  | 116  | 116  |
| Wholesale prices, all commodities <sup>4</sup> .....               | 101  | 101  | 100  | 100  | 100  |
| Farm commodities.....  | 98   | 98   | 97   | 98   | 96   |
| Food, processed.....   | 102  | 101  | 101  | 101  | 100  |
| Consumer price index <sup>4</sup> .....                            | 105  | 105  | 106  | 106  | --   |
| Food .....   | 103  | 104  | 104  | 105  | --   |
| Index numbers (1910-14 = 100)                                      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Prices received by farmers.....                                    | 243  | 243  | 242  | 244  | 242  |
| Crops.....   | 226  | 231  | 224  | 228  | 232  |
| Food grains.....   | 219  | 226  | 231  | 231  | 234  |
| Feed grains and hay.....   | 152  | 153  | 153  | 157  | 161  |
| Cotton.....  | 246  | 267  | 261  | 254  | 251  |
| Tobacco.....   | 542  | 532  | 505  | 485  | 502  |
| Oil bearing crops.....   | 253  | 248  | 247  | 251  | 258  |
| Fruit.....   | 216  | 221  | 198  | 216  | 226  |
| Commercial vegetables.....   | 272  | 253  | 236  | 266  | 261  |
| Livestock and products .....                                       | 257  | 254  | 258  | 257  | 251  |
| Meat animals.....  | 305  | 310  | 308  | 308  | 294  |
| Dairy products .....   | 263  | 252  | 263  | 257  | 254  |
| Poultry and eggs.....  | 154  | 144  | 151  | 152  | 157  |
| Prices paid by farmers   |      |      |      |      |      |
| All commodities.....   | 279  | 280  | 282  | 284  | 284  |
| Used in living.....  | 294  | 294  | 296  | 297  | 298  |
| Used in production.....  | 268  | 270  | 273  | 274  | 274  |
| Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index) ..     | 305  | 306  | 309  | 311  | 311  |
| Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted.....                          | 652  | 660  | 658  | 663  | 663  |
| Parity ratio (prices received to parity index) .....               | 80   | 80   | 78   | 78   | 78   |

<sup>1</sup> Bureau of the Census. <sup>2</sup> Federal Reserve Board. <sup>3</sup> Department of Commerce. <sup>4</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics--any figures not available at press time omitted.

## Acreage Increases and Decreases

According to the Crop Reporting Board the present feed grain acreage is expected to be 2 percent more and food grain acreage 6 percent more than last year. Cotton acreage reductions more than offset an increase in soybean acreage to give a net drop of less than 1 percent in acreage of oilseeds.

Of the spring planted crops, corn shows the largest prospective increase, 3.8 million acres, followed by soybeans, sorghums, and other spring wheat with increases of about a million acres each. Minor increases are intended for flaxseed and sugar beets.

Cotton led the crops showing smaller intended acreages than last year with a decrease of 1.5 million acres. Oats acreage dropped nearly the same amount with other important decreases in barley, hay, and durum wheat and minor declines in dry beans, dry peas, peanuts, potatoes, sweet-potatoes and tobacco.

## Prospective Plantings for Other Crops

**FLAXSEED:** Growers expect to plant 3 percent more flax in 1963, according to their early March intentions. The 1963 acreage expected to be planted is 3,181,000 acres, compared with 3,087,000 acres seeded in 1962 and the 1957-61 average of 3,805,000 acres.

**DRY PEAS:** Growers' intentions as of March 1 indicate that 348,000 acres of dry peas (including acreage for seed) will be planted this year. This is 1 percent less than last year but 8 percent more than the 5-year average.

## Livestock and Livestock Products

| Item  | Unit      | January 1962      | January 1963      |
|---|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Dairy Production</b>                             |           |                   |                   |
| Milk .....  | Bil. lb.  | <sup>1</sup> 19.7 | <sup>1</sup> 19.5 |
| Evaporated whole milk .....                         | Mil. lb.  | 117.7             | 135.8             |
| Dry nonfat milk solids (for human food).....        | Mil. lb.  | 184.5             | 171.5             |
| Butter, creamery.....                               | Mil. lb.  | 144.2             | 130.5             |
| Cheese, American .....                              | Mil. lb.  | 77.6              | 75.7              |
| Ice cream .....                                     | Mil. gal. | 45.4              | 47.0              |
| <b>Poultry Production</b>                           |           |                   |                   |
| Eggs .....  | Billions  | <sup>1</sup> 10.3 | <sup>1</sup> 10.0 |
| Federally inspected slaughter: <sup>2</sup>         |           |                   |                   |
| Chickens.....                                       | Mil. lb.  | 340.5             | 410.9             |
| Turkeys .....                                       | Mil. lb.  | 33.9              | 31.0              |
| Poultry used for further processing.....            | Mil. lb.  | 39.4              | 50.0              |
| Liquid egg .....                                    | Mil. lb.  | 32.1              | 25.7              |
| Dried egg (egg solids).....                         | Mil. lb.  | 2.1               | 1.5               |
| Frozen egg .....                                    | Mil. lb.  | 20.0              | 16.0              |
| <b>Meat Production (dressed weight<sup>3</sup>)</b> |           |                   |                   |
| Beef .....  | Mil. lb.  | 1,327             | 1,346             |
| Veal .....  | Mil. lb.  | 82                | 78                |
| Pork .....  | Mil. lb.  | 1,016             | 1,063             |
| Lamb and mutton .....                               | Mil. lb.  | 77                | 73                |
| Total red meat .....                                | Mil. lb.  | 2,502             | 2,560             |

<sup>1</sup> January-February

<sup>2</sup> Ready-to-cook

<sup>3</sup> Commercial; excludes farm slaughter



**DRY BEANS:** Growers intend to plant 1,484,000 acres of dry edible beans this year, 4 percent less than in 1962 and 2 percent below the 5-year average.

**PEANUTS:** About 1,528,000 acres of peanuts will be planted alone in 1963 if growers carry out their intentions as of March 1. This would be 1 percent less than the 1,546,000 acres planted alone last year and 6 percent smaller than the 1957-61 average.

**COTTON:** With 1963 acreage allotments down about 10 percent from last season, farmers plan to plant 14,818,000 acres of cotton this year. This is 9 percent less than the 16,296,000 acres planted in 1962 and 1 percent less than the 1957-61 average of 15,038,000 acres.

**SUGAR BEETS:** Farmers expect to plant a record 1,272,000 acres of sugar beets this year, 7 percent more than the previous record-high last year and 29 percent more than the 1957-61 average.

**SWEETPOTATOES:** Growers' intentions indicate there will be 210,100 acres of sweetpotatoes planted this year, 5 percent less than the 221,800 acres planted in 1962 and 13 percent less than the 1957-61 average.

### Citrus Prospects Decline

Citrus production for 1962-63 is expected to be one-fourth smaller than last year, with all crops except limes down. During February, prospects declined as the effects of earlier freeze damage became more apparent, particularly for oranges in Florida and lemons in California. In all citrus areas harvest is further along than at the same time last year, and a larger proportion of the crop has been processed. By March 1, growers had picked 60 percent of the oranges and three-fourths of the grapefruit.

### Sheep and Lambs on Feed in 7 States

The number of sheep and lambs on feed on March 1 in 7 major feeding States was 1,477,000 head. This was 6 percent below the number on feed in these States a year earlier. The number on feed on March 1 this year showed a 40 percent seasonal decline from the 2,451,000 head on feed in these States January 1, 1963.

### December-February Pig Crop

The December 1962-February 1963 pig crop in 10 Corn Belt States totaled 12,570,000 head, according to the Crop Reporting Board. The pig crop reported for these States is the number of pigs from litters farrowed during December through February that are still on hand or have already been sold.

### Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-Food Products

| Year and Month     | Retail Cost <sup>1</sup> | Farm Value <sup>2</sup> | Farm-Retail Spread | Farmer's Share |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 1962 average ..... | \$ 1,067                 | \$410                   | \$ 657             | 38%            |
| 1962 Jan. ....     | 1,056                    | 411                     | 645                | 39%            |
| 1962 Dec. ....     | 1,062                    | 407                     | 655                | 38%            |
| 1963 Jan. ....     | 1,078                    | 408                     | 670                | 38%            |

<sup>1</sup>Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per family in 1952 by urban wage-earner and clerical-worker families calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

<sup>2</sup>Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

### March-May Farrowings

The number of sows bred and intended for farrowing in March, April, and May in the 10 States total 3,758,000 head, 4 percent more than were farrowed a year earlier. All States show increases in the number of March-May sows to farrow. Increases ranged from 1 percent in Iowa and Minnesota to 16 percent in Missouri. The breakdown by months is for 1,360,000 sows to farrow in March, 1,474,000 in April, and 924,000 in May.

### Cash Receipts from farm marketings, by States, January 1963<sup>1</sup>

| State                                   | Livestock and Products | Crops      | Total      |
|---|------------------------|------------|------------|
|   | 1,000 dol.             | 1,000 dol. | 1,000 dol. |
| Maine .....                             | 10,461                 | 6,814      | 17,275     |
| New Hampshire .....                     | 4,293                  | 887        | 5,180      |
| Vermont .....                           | 9,578                  | 1,144      | 10,722     |
| Massachusetts .....                     | 8,756                  | 3,533      | 12,289     |
| Rhode Island .....                      | 1,111                  | 553        | 1,664      |
| Connecticut .....                       | 8,205                  | 4,217      | 12,422     |
| New York .....                          | 55,681                 | 16,109     | 71,790     |
| New Jersey .....                        | 14,310                 | 3,830      | 18,140     |
| Pennsylvania .....                      | 49,973                 | 15,478     | 65,451     |
| Ohio .....                              | 53,192                 | 35,330     | 88,522     |
| Indiana .....                           | 62,711                 | 53,604     | 116,315    |
| Illinois .....                          | 110,714                | 126,485    | 237,199    |
| Michigan .....                          | 34,340                 | 20,973     | 55,313     |
| Wisconsin .....                         | 91,053                 | 11,090     | 102,143    |
| Minnesota .....                         | 97,275                 | 43,359     | 140,634    |
| Iowa .....                              | 172,973                | 116,009    | 288,982    |
| Missouri .....                          | 59,011                 | 26,728     | 85,739     |
| North Dakota .....                      | 19,810                 | 50,620     | 70,430     |
| South Dakota .....                      | 52,719                 | 18,932     | 71,651     |
| Nebraska .....                          | 73,030                 | 100,133    | 173,163    |
| Kansas .....                            | 66,743                 | 89,613     | 156,356    |
| Delaware .....                          | 5,661                  | 1,358      | 7,019      |
| Maryland .....                          | 15,606                 | 3,074      | 18,680     |
| Virginia .....                          | 17,685                 | 13,506     | 31,191     |
| West Virginia .....                     | 4,717                  | 2,295      | 7,012      |
| North Carolina .....                    | 25,843                 | 13,756     | 39,599     |
| South Carolina .....                    | 9,122                  | 11,895     | 21,017     |
| Georgia .....                           | 36,518                 | 11,673     | 48,191     |
| Florida .....                           | 18,695                 | 91,857     | 110,552    |
| Kentucky .....                          | 23,435                 | 80,945     | 104,380    |
| Tennessee .....                         | 19,842                 | 19,674     | 39,516     |
| Alabama .....                           | 26,961                 | 12,055     | 39,016     |
| Mississippi .....                       | 21,427                 | 32,887     | 54,314     |
| Arkansas .....                          | 19,553                 | 29,013     | 48,566     |
| Louisiana .....                         | 14,549                 | 23,259     | 37,808     |
| Oklahoma .....                          | 28,070                 | 31,510     | 59,580     |
| Texas .....                             | 76,706                 | 245,401    | 322,107    |
| Montana .....                           | 14,374                 | 20,831     | 35,205     |
| Idaho .....                             | 16,558                 | 20,461     | 37,019     |
| Wyoming .....                           | 5,786                  | 1,904      | 7,690      |
| Colorado .....                          | 33,139                 | 18,067     | 51,206     |
| New Mexico .....                        | 6,666                  | 7,890      | 14,556     |
| Arizona .....                           | 10,993                 | 36,807     | 47,800     |
| Utah .....                              | 11,014                 | 2,617      | 13,631     |
| Nevada .....                            | 4,523                  | 572        | 5,095      |
| Washington .....                        | 20,381                 | 24,329     | 44,710     |
| Oregon .....                            | 17,462                 | 12,026     | 29,488     |
| California .....                        | 100,715                | 111,710    | 212,425    |
| United States .....                     | 1,661,940              | 1,626,813  | 3,288,753  |
| Same month, year ago <sup>2</sup> ..... | 1,632,590              | 1,546,115  | 3,178,705  |

<sup>1</sup> All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation. <sup>2</sup> Revised.

## Cash Receipts From Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States <sup>1</sup>

|   | January<br>1963 | February<br>1963 |
|---|-----------------|------------------|
| CASH RECEIPTS                                     | <i>Mil dol.</i> | <i>Mil dol.</i>  |
| Total marketings and CCC loans <sup>2</sup> ..... | 3,289           | 2,300            |
| Livestock and products .....                      | 1,662           | 1,400            |
| Meat animals .....                                | 978             |                  |
| Dairy products .....                              | 398             |                  |
| Poultry and eggs .....                            | 249             |                  |
| Other .....                                       | 37              |                  |
| Crops .....                                       | 1,627           | 900              |
| Food grains .....                                 | 205             |                  |
| Feed crops .....                                  | 480             |                  |
| Cotton (lint and seed) .....                      | 348             |                  |
| Oil-bearing crops .....                           | 163             |                  |
| Tobacco .....                                     | 108             |                  |
| Vegetables .....                                  | 122             |                  |
| Fruits and tree nuts .....                        | 107             |                  |
| Other .....                                       | 94              |                  |
| Government payments .....                         | 83              |                  |
| Grand total .....                                 | 3,372           |                  |
| VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:                        | 1947-49 = 100   |                  |
| All commodities .....                             | 151             | 108              |
| Livestock and products .....                      | 137             | 123              |
| Crops .....                                       | 169             | 90               |

<sup>1</sup> For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation. <sup>2</sup> Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.

### March 1 Total Potato Stocks

Stocks of potatoes held by growers and local dealers in the fall producing areas of the country totaled 71.4 million hundredweight on March 1, 1963. This amount was 3 percent less than the record high March 1 holdings of 73.8 million on March 1, 1962.

### February Milk Production

Milk production in the United States during February is estimated at 9,470 million pounds, 1.3 percent below February 1962, but 1 percent above the 1957-61 average for the month.

### 1962 Egg Production

Egg production in the 48 States during 1962 totaled 62,986 million eggs--2 percent more than the 1961 production of 61,922 million. Number of layers on hand during 1962 averaged 297 million, compared with 294 million in 1961. The average rate of lay per layer on hand in 1962 was 212.1 eggs, compared with 210.4 in 1961. The rate of egg production per layer has shown a steady upward trend for years. The rate of lay in 1950 was 174 eggs; in 1955, 192 eggs; and in 1960, 209 eggs.

### Estimates of the Farm Population

An average of 14,313,000 persons were living on farms in rural areas in the United States in the 12-month period centered on April 1962, according to an estimate prepared cooperatively by the Bureau of the Census and the Economic Research Service. Of the total population, 7.7 percent, or 1 person in 13, was living on a farm. The farm population was about 1,320,000 smaller in 1962 than in 1960.

### Farm Numbers Down Average Size Increases Trend Continues in 1963

The number of farms in operation in 1962, estimated at 3,688,000 in 48 States, was about 3 percent less than in 1961. Preliminary estimates point to a total of about 3,580,000 farms in 1963. The trend to fewer farms persists generally, although the rates of change vary by areas.